

HOGAN & HARTSON
L.L.P.

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Writer's Direct Dial
(202) 637-6462

ORIGINAL

August 6, 1997

COLUMBIA SQUARE
555 THIRTEENTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004-1109
TEL (202) 637-5600
FAX (202) 637-5910

BY HAND DELIVERY

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

AUG - 6 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate,
Interexchange Marketplace; Implementation of Section
254(g) of the Communications Action of 1934, as amended

Dear Mr. Caton:

I am enclosing the original and 4 copies of the Motion of the American Samoa Government for Modification of the Procedural Schedule in the referenced proceeding.

Please return a date-stamped copy of the enclosed (copy provided).

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Sieradzki

David L. Sieradzki

Enclosures: Service List

No. of Copies rec'd 04
List ABOVE

RECEIVED

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION AUG - 6 1997
Washington D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Policy and Rules Concerning the)
Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace)
Implementation of Section 254(g) of the)
Communications Action of 1934, as amended)
CC Docket No. 96-61

ORIGINAL

**MOTION OF THE AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT
FOR MODIFICATION OF THE PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

The American Samoa Government hereby respectfully requests a modification of the procedural schedule for comments on the implementation of rate integration for American Samoa established in the *Order* in the above-captioned proceeding. 1/ This request for modification of the procedural schedule is necessary in light of the complex issues that are involved with the implementation of rate integration for interstate, interexchange services to and from American Samoa.

In the *Order*, the Bureau observes that the record does not indicate what measures the American Samoa Government plans to take to facilitate the implementation of rate integration for American Samoa, and states that it is establishing a comment period for the purpose of determining the extent to which certain steps should be taken to implement rate integration. It states:

We encourage [the] American Samoa [Government] to submit a complete plan for taking . . . measures that could help to integrate provision of communications services to American

1/ Memorandum Opinion and Order, DA 97-1628 (Com. Car. Bur., released July 30, 1997) ("*Order*").

Samoa. On the basis of the resulting record, we will determine whether any regulatory action is necessary. 2/

In the ordering clause paragraph establishing the procedures for this comment period, however, the *Order* appears to contradict itself. The body of the *Order* indicates that the American Samoa Government will be allowed an opportunity to submit a plan, to which interexchange carriers could respond and build a record to enable the Bureau to determine what, if any, action is necessary. But the ordering clause paragraph provides only 19 days (until August 18, 1997) for the initial comments, and directs the interexchange carriers to file first, with the American Samoa Government left to file responsive comments less than three weeks thereafter, by September 5, 1997. 3/

The American Samoa Government intends to submit a complete plan addressing the measures it proposes to implement rate integration of interstate service to and from American Samoa. This plan will address the specific issues raised in ¶¶ 21-22 of the *Order*, as well as other related issues. The American Samoa Government also intends to work closely with the interexchange carriers and to attempt to reach a consensus on this plan before submitting it, if possible. Due to the complexity of the issues and the need for coordination with the carriers, however, the American Samoa Government respectfully requests that the Commission adopt the following procedural schedule:

2/ *Id.*, ¶ 22.

3/ *Id.*, ¶ 27.

October 15, 1997	American Samoa Government submits its rate integration implementation plan.
November 15, 1997	Interexchange carriers and other interested parties submit comments on the American Samoa Government plan.

This change to the procedural schedule will have several benefits.

First, it will enable the American Samoa Government the opportunity to fully analyze and address the complicated issues related to the implementation of rate integration for American Samoa. Second, it will enable the interexchange carriers to address the issues based on knowledge of the American Samoa Government's plans, rather than have to proceed blindly without this information. Third, it will enable and encourage the parties to work together to develop a consensus solution. Finally, the reasonable procedural schedule we are proposing with respect to rate integration issues for American Samoa will facilitate the building of a more complete record through what it is hoped will be a non-contentious process.

In that regard, the undersigned counsel for the American Samoa Government has discussed with affected carriers the idea of modifying the procedural schedule to extend the comment period and to allow the American Samoa Government to submit its plan before requiring the carriers to file comments. Representatives of AT&T, GTE, MCI, and Sprint have indicated that they support the American Samoa Government's request for modification of the procedural schedule.

For the reasons given, the American Samoa Government respectfully requests that the procedural schedule for the implementation of rate integration for American Samoa be modified as described above.

Respectfully submitted,

AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT

By: David Sieradzki

Richard S. Rodin
David L. Sieradzki
Cindy D. Jackson
HOGAN & HARTSON, L.L.P.
555 Thirteenth St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 637-5600

Counsel for the American Samoa
Government

August 6, 1997

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Rebecca G. Wahl, hereby certify that on this 6th day of August, 1997, a copy of the foregoing Motion of the American Samoa Government for Modification of the Procedural Schedule was hand delivered to the parties listed below (except as indicated by asterisks).



Rebecca G. Wahl

A. Richard Metzger, Jr.
Deputy Chief
Common Carrier Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 500
Washington, D.C. 20554

James D. Schlichting
Chief, Competitive Pricing Division
Common Carrier Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 518
Washington, D.C. 20554

Patrick Donovan
Deputy Chief
Competitive Pricing Division
Common Carrier Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 500
Washington, D.C. 20554

William J. Bailey
Competitive Pricing Division
Common Carrier Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 518
Washington, D.C. 20554

James Stoke*
AT&T
295 N. Maple Avenue, Room 1130-L-1
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Richard Rubin*
AT&T
295 N. Maple Avenue, Room 3252-I-3
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Gordon F. Maxson
GTE Service Corporation
1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20036-5801

Donald J. Elardo
MCI Communications Corporation
1801 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006-3606

Kent Nakamura
Sprint Communications Company
1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 1110
Washington, D.C. 20036

*First Class Mail